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FORGERY PLOT SPOILED BY THE POLICE

HUGE SCHEMES DEFTLY LAID
AND GREAT GANG BE-
HIND THEM.

ROME, March 17.—Startling developments concerning the extensive operations of the international gang of forgers and of checks and banknotes, four ringleaders of which are under arrest at Milan, continue to come to the surface as a result of the international police investigation now in progress. As stated at the time of the arrests a week ago the operations of the gang were confined chiefly to New York and London.

The capture of the four leaders was due to the misgivings of Signor Polotti, a very skillful lithographer, whom the forgers had entrusted with the engraving of an immense number of checks, varying in value from \$10 to \$200 apiece, which they represented were required by the American Express Company or its branch establishment in Rome, Genoa and Naples.

Signor Polotti confided the affair to the police, who directed him to proceed quietly with the commission while they prepared a surprise on as many as possible of the gang, which during the past two years has given

untold trouble in America, England, France and Belgium.

In Italy last December, after a series of funds at Genoa amounting to \$60,000, they presented a letter of credit on the Commercial Bank of Milan for \$15,000 on a firm of private bankers in New York. The culprits have again and again exploited the New York bank, and the Milan police are convinced from a mass of documents and stamps now seized at their lodgings that this criminal gang must have had one or more accomplices in the employ of the bank itself.

Four members of the gang were caught red-handed. They are all middle-aged, well dressed men of Italian origin, though a considerable part of their career has been spent in the United States and Great Britain. They had in their possession newly-made banknotes and checks of the total value of over \$2,000,000, which they were about to forward to confederates in New York and London for circulation.

Orfeo Orioni, one of the ringleaders under arrest, comes of a well known Naples family and formerly was an artillery officer in the Italian army. He is a nephew of the famous General Matarassi. He has been a consular agent and representative of various commercial firms in Japan and North America.

The Milan police are elated at the capture, but regret that many members of the gang are still at large, though they have clues which are expected to prove useful to the police of New York, London and Paris.

DETAILS OF TARIFF

One Forcast Made Which May Be Authentic.

CHICAGO, March 16.—The Record-Herald, in a special dispatch from Washington prints what purports to be the positively known provisions of the tariff bill.

It says in part:
"No tax will be imposed on coffee."
"Lumber will be reduced from \$2 to \$1 per thousand."

"There will be free hides and lower schedules on shoes and leather goods."

"Steel will be materially reduced."
"The duties on sugar are undisturbed but concessions are granted Cuba and the Philippines."

"The wool schedule will be aimed at the amount of scoured wool in the fleece. This will permit cheaper grades of wool to get in at less duty."

"Woolens will be slightly reduced."
"Iron ore will be reduced and pig iron will be cut down."

"Flour-spar, a component part of steel manufacture, will be taxed at \$3 a ton."

PLACATING "YOUNGSTERS"

Oldsters in National Senate Take a Lesson In New Procedure.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The composition of the Senate committee on committees as announced by Senator Hale, chairman of the Republican caucus of the Senate is generally accepted as indicating a distinct purpose to conciliate the "Youngsters" of the Senate as the band of erstwhile insurgents and their sympathizers are called.

Senators Aldrich, Kean, McCumber and Crane of the "Old guard" formed by a minority of the nine members, Senators Flint, Southland, Curtis, Borah and Dixon all being of the younger element.

The fact that the Far West predominates in the committee is also noticeable six of the nine members being from west of the Missouri.

SHEEP STEALING LION

PETALUMA, Cal., March 16.—A California mountain lion measuring seven feet from tip to tip was shot on a ranch near here today by Robert Cook. For some time the farmers of this vicinity have been losing calves, sheep and other stock and the depredations have been laid to coyotes. Cook was out with his pack of hounds looking for these animals when he trailed the lion to its den. One shot which lodged in the neck of the big beast, killed it instantly. The lion wore an immense mane like its African relative.

NEW YORK SCHOOLS TO BE RE-TERMED

THE ELEMENTARY AND HIGH
SCHOOL WORK TO BE
EQUALIZED.

NEW YORK, March 16.—If plans suggested by a special committee are adopted, the New York public school system which now extends over a period of twelve years—eight years in elementary work, and four years of high school work—will be changed to a six and six basis. Elementary and high school work will be equalized, although the six years of high school work will be subdivided into two equal parts, the first to be known as sub-high school course, and the remainder to be finishing work. The plan is approved by the city club and by leading educators throughout the country, including Elmer Ellsworth Brown, United States Commissioner of Education. The National Education Association at its latest meeting at Brooklyn also adopted resolutions favoring the plan. A member of the committee, explaining the proposal, said:

"One of the big features of the plan is that providing for turning the child, whose circumstances or inclination make it desirable, into the industrial or vocational line of training earlier than is now done. Our present system aims at the training of brain workers and ignores to a great extent the training for manual arts. In the sub-high school two courses will be provided, one leading, as at present, to the advanced work of the regular high schools and preparatory for colleges. The preparatory course in the sub-high school will be of an industrial or a vocational order, leading to the work of the manual high school or to other trade schools such as are planned by the state."

A draft of the plan has been submitted to the charter committee. It is predicted that the scheme will be incorporated in the administrative code of the charter.

FIGHTING CIGARETTES

MONTGOMERY, Ala., March 16.—Regarding the sale of cigarette papers, the merchants of Town Creek Ala., a small town on the Southern Railway near Decatur, have signed a peculiar pledge. All of the business men have agreed to burn all cigarette papers now on their hands in their stores and not to purchase any more. They further agree to prosecute anyone in the future who handles them. It is unlawful to sell cigarettes.

THE OPIUM CURSE

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16.—That the opium curse in China is not being stamped out without the loss of life is the statement of Dr. E. J. Tooker, a medical missionary, who has just returned from a seven years sojourn in that country. Dr. Tooker says that many of the habitual users of the drug have succumbed when it has been taken away from them, and that many others have been driven into insanity. But in spite of these facts, he declares that the movement is going forward with great rapidity.

FAITHFUL DOG WATCHED

CHICAGO, March 16.—The whine of a dog which was watching beside the body of his mistress, attracted the attention of passers by last night in an Evanston Street house, and on entering the police discovered that Mrs. Ella Barber aged 65 years, had been dead for ten days. The dog, which was almost famished, was with difficulty removed while the body was cared for.

THE FIRST BILL

WASHINGTON, March 16.—To Representative Sabbath, a Democrat of Illinois, fell the honor of introducing the first House bill in the 61st Congress. It was a bill to require persons carrying on occupations and trades subject to the regulatory power of congress to pay compensation to employees injured and to change the general law for injuries received on mail routes.

SENT TO HIS HOME

MILWAUKEE, Wis., March 16.—William Childs who for two years wandered about the country suffering from sensory aphasia, or complete loss of memory, and whose mind cleared up when a camera clicked in the Milwaukee County Hospital, will be returned to Brooklyn, N. Y. this week. There his parents will take care of him.

FOUR BOXES.

An Effective Quartet of Great Governing Powers.

"The world is governed by three boxes," said an American wit of a century ago, "the cartridge box, the ballot box and the toolbox."

Between the first two of these great governing powers no one questioned the natural alliance, but that the sex whose box was the toolbox should also claim a right to use the ballot box was in his day undreamed of. Half a century later, during the civil war, Horace Greeley, the famous editor, held the old opinion.

"Madam," he said bluntly at a public meeting to the pioneer suffragist, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, "the bullet and the ballot go together. If you want to vote, are you ready to fight?"

"Certainly, sir," replied the quick witted lady, to the delight of the audience. "I am ready to fight just as you have fought—with my pen."

Not all the early women suffragists would so readily have countenanced warfare, even in jest, for a notable number of them were Quakers or of Quaker ancestry, to whom force was abhorrent. In the Society of Friends the rights of men and women have been always absolutely equal, so that, as Lucretia Mott declared, it seemed but natural to wish to counsel and act with men everywhere on even terms, as she had always done in Nantucket.

One Quaker philanthropist, Abby Hopper Gibbons, who had never been identified with the "woman's rights" women, yet acknowledged with demure humor that, although she talked little about her rights, she had "been in the habit of always taking them" when she could.

Once, however, she failed to take a very important one when she was summoned to do so. She had a singularly bold and firm handwriting, easily mistaken for a man's, and often signed business communications simply A. H. Gibbons, so that she one day found herself, as a citizen and a taxpayer, imperatively required, in the name of the law, to furnish reasons why she should not serve as a juror.

"I know of none," she wrote serenely at the foot of this formidable document and sent it back. But the official who read this apparently impertinent response must have investigated the record of his correspondent and found a reason, for A. H. Gibbons, householder of New York, was excused from service in that fourth box, so important in civilized communities—the jury box.—Youth's Companion.

THE COBRA STONE.

A Ceylon Story About the Reptile and Its Shining Lure.

Every one knows that Ceylon is famous for the amount of queer and rare precious stones found in the sands of its dried up river beds. Among these is one called "chlorophane," a rare variety of fluor spar, which shines at night with phosphorescent light. There has long been a tradition among the natives that a certain species of cobra makes use of this stone to attract insects in the darkness. Indeed, the name given it is "naja-kaller," or cobra stone. A scientist resolved to test this wonderful story during a stay in the island, so offered any cooly 5 rupees to point out a stone carrying cobra. In about a week an old Tamil came in and offered to show him one. He followed this guide, and, sure enough, there, under an immense tamarind tree, he saw a little point of steady greenish light and could faintly distinguish behind a cobra coiled and slowly waving its head from side to side. It would have been desperately dangerous to approach the reptile, and the cooly begged him not to do so, saying that next night he would himself get the stone. He did so, and in rather clever fashion. Before dark he climbed into the tree, carrying a large bag of ashes. After nightfall the cobra turned up, as usual, and deposited its treasure, which it carried in its mouth, before it. Thereupon the cooly emptied his bag of ashes over the shining object, and the frightened reptile after a wild but fruitless search crept back into the jungle. The cooly descended, searched the ashes, found the stone and received his promised reward.—London Telegraph.

Scotland's Patron Saint.

Why was St. Andrew chosen as the patron saint of Scotland? This question has been asked many times, but the archdeacon of whom Dean Hole tells may be considered to have discovered the most satisfactory solution of the problem. "Gentlemen," said he (he was speaking at the time), "I have given this difficult subject my thoughtful consideration, and I have come to the conclusion that St. Andrew was chosen to be the patron saint of Scotland because he discovered the lad who had the loaves and fishes."—Dundee Advertiser.

Lively Cheese.

"How did you find the Stilton I sent you?"
"Find it? We didn't find it! As soon as ever my wife's back was turned it jumped from the pantry shelf, ran down the garden, out of the gate and was last seen chasing a frightened dog down the road."—London Scraps.

Hard to Choose.

"Whom would you rather entertain," asks the philosopher of folly, "a perfectly stupid bore or a clever fellow who has just been abroad for the first time?"—Exchange.

The acts of this life are the destiny of the next.—Eastern Proverb.

HOW DOES SENATOR JOE CANNON SOUND

NOT IMPOSSIBLE NOR IM-
PROBABLE PRESENT SPEAK-
ER MAY GO UP A PEG.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—Gossip at the capitol for the last few days has been to the effect that Speaker Cannon can secure the nomination of United States Senator from Illinois if he desires it. According to the rumor which could in no way be verified, the deadlock over the selection of a Senator from Illinois is due indirectly to the fight on the part of the "insurgents" in the House and those opposed to Mr. Cannon for the speakership.

It has been said that Mr. Cannon would not accept the speakership if the present rules are changed, but the understanding has been that, in that event, Mr. Cannon would take a seat on the floor of the House, Mr. Cannon's re-election as Speaker is generally conceded.

Mr. Cannon who is 73 years old, has had a notable career in the House where he has served almost continuously since the 43rd Congress, beginning in 1873. He has been speaker for the past three congresses. In event Mr. Cannon should be elected a Senator the situation in the House would become very interesting. According to the custom of electing the eldest member in point of service, General Bingham, of Pennsylvania, who has served in every congress since 1879, would be elected speaker.

Mr. Payne, the Republican floor leader, is chairman of the ways and means committee, which has framed the tariff and this arrangement might be advised by those who would oppose his election. Should the usual custom of electing the Speaker be dispensed with, the names of Towney of Minnesota, chairman of the appropriations committee, and Mann of Illinois, or Olmstead of Pennsylvania probably would be prominently mentioned.

Friends of Mr. Cannon approached regarding the rumor that the Speaker might be named by the Illinois Legislature for the Senate, declared that they believe it would not be characteristic of Mr. Cannon to accept the nomination, which would compel him to give up his fight against the "insurgents."

BUYS ROOSEVELT LETTER

NEW YORK, March 16.—A letter written by Theodore Roosevelt in 1904 to the late Colonel W. A. Stone, sold yesterday for \$875, although it contained only nine words in all, including the signature, and was thus hardly more than an autograph.

MODERN LUXURIES

Pennsylvania Railroad To Furnish Free Tea and Coffee To Passengers.

PITTSBURG, March 16.—The Pennsylvania Railroad has announced that hereafter it will furnish to all passengers on Pullman cars tea or coffee or both, free. This will apply only to trains to which a dinner is attached.

The Pullman people have been notified that hereafter the porters will be required to go to the dining car at the request of any passenger at any time, except when the car is closed for the night, and bring coffee or tea to the passenger without charge.

Pittsburg officers of the road say it has been found that tea and coffee are good preventives of headaches due to railroad traveling. The railroad company expects to make more than its money back by not having to take care of so many sick passengers en route.

Near Death In Big Pond.

It was a thrilling experience to Mrs. Ida Soper to face death. "For years a severe lung trouble gave me intense suffering," she writes, "and several times nearly caused my death. All remedies failed and doctors said I was incurable. Then Dr. King's New Discovery brought quick relief and a cure so permanent that I have not been troubled in 12 years." Mrs. Soper lives in Big Pond, Pa. It works wonders in Coughs and Colds, Sore Throats, Hemorrhages, La Grippe, Asthma, Croup, Whooping Cough and all Bronchial affections. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by Chas. Rogers & Son, druggists.

Foley's Kidney Remedy will cure any case of kidney or bladder trouble that is not beyond the reach of medicine. Cures backache and irregularities that if neglected might result in Bright's disease or diabetes. T. F. Laurin, Owl Drug Store.

Do You Realize?

That despondency in women is a mental condition often traceable to some distinctly female ill!

Women who are well do not have the blues, neither are they irritable and restless. Derangement of the female organism breeds all kinds of miserable feelings such as backache, headache, and bearing-down feelings. Try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. There is no doubt that it has made many remarkable cures of female ills after all other means had failed. There is hardly a day that some woman does not write us that this simple old medicine, made only of roots and herbs, has cured her of a severe illness after several doctors had done their best and failed.

Here are two such letters—read them—they are genuine and reliable.

Baltimore, Md.—"For four years my life was a misery to me. I had suffered with female troubles so long that I was discouraged. I had given up all hope of ever being well when I began to take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It restored my health and I felt as though new life had been given me, and I am recommending it to all my friends."—Mrs. W. S. Ford, 1938 Lansdowne St., Baltimore, Md.

Rockland, Me.—"I was troubled for a long time with pains in my back and side and was miserable in every way. I had doctored until I was discouraged and thought I would never get well. I read a testimonial about Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and thought I would try it."

"After taking three bottles I never was so well in my life. I am recommending Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to all my friends."—Mrs. Will Young, 6 Columbia Avenue, Rockland, Me.

For 30 years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has been the standard remedy for female ills. No sick woman does justice to herself who will not try this famous medicine. Made exclusively from roots and herbs, and has thousands of cures to its credit.

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health free of charge. Address Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass.



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